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★ JAN 26 1944 ★

U. S. Department of Agriculture

# THE YELLOW SHEETS

December----January

October 1943 brought the earliest frost I can recollect in my nearly fifty years of residence in Arkansas. A very light frost, but really one. Then followed mild, pleasant weather until the middle of December, when we had cold north west winds, bringing temperatures several degrees below freezing. I lost some common plants, such as *Lampranthus*, and a few leaves on one of the Africans. Others safe so far.

I am asked quite frequently about my Begonias. I lost all of them in the January 1942 blizzard, and have not stocked again, waiting to see if the added insulation makes my quarters safe for them.

Many plants are dormant now, especially wildlings. On account of health will not be able to furnish more Iris before Spring.

Available now---

Partridgeberry (*Whitella repens*) popular Christmas decoration; hardy evergreen ground cover; needs acid soil, and deep shade in the South. Fruit edible.

Ferns---Christmas, Ebony Spleenwort and Resurrection.

Red Tradescantia, so called from cold weather coloring of the leaves, color of blooms much affected by difference of soil and exposure. One of the native Spiderworts.

Cultivated Violets---white, early, good late winter bloomer in house if you have a dependable cut. Niceazy for the tiny buds.

Confederate Violets---grey effect; my favorite, can stand full sun.

Sweasea Hemerocallis---the double Orange Lily.

### Hardy Rock Garden Plants

Most of my Sedums are hardy in the North.

I have quite a number of varieties of hardy *Sempervivums*, but very little increase this year..

### Hardy Cacti----

Prickly Pear (*Opuntia vulgare*), yellow blooms, fruit edible.

Another *Opuntia*, much taller plants, striking lawn decorations.

*Opuntia versicolor*, hardy in the Colorado deserts.

Grizzly Bear (*Opuntia erinacea*) hardy here.

*Opuntia ramosissima* dwarf, good pot plant, hardy here.

*Opuntia Cholla*.

### Hardy Sedums---

*Corporalosum*, very hardy, will need trimming to be kept neat, and trimmings good forage for pet goats and rabbits. one sent me labelled *Glaucum*, much like *Album* but flowers yellow; *Festucastrum*, much like

*Glaucum*, but a difference in winter coloring; *Album*, almost evergreen here, white flowers; an unidentified grey green on with at times attractive undercolor; *Acre* and *Sexangulare*, much alike and both good ground cover for bare, clayey spots; *Taxiroviczii*, said to have been popular in Europe before Hitler, but not common in the U. S.; two which are in dispute among botanists, some saying that No. 2 is the pink flowered *Stoloniferum* and that No. 28 is *Stoloniferum coccineum*, others that both are *Spurium* hybrids.

Have only 2 plants or two of *Kimchaticum*; one sent me labelled *persifolius*, probably a *Spurium* hybrid, having larger leaves at times; *Sieboldii*, *Spurium*; *Ellencombiatum*; *Reflexum*; *Crested Purpureum*; a deciduous form of *Album*; *Ternatum*; one much like *Ternatum* but blooms later, *Hiddendorfianum*; and *Spectabile alba*.

Except where noted all above plants 5¢ each. Postage paid on orders of 50¢ and over. Less than that please add 5¢. Cash with order.

<i>Talinum</i> , (pink Baby's Breath) tender	5¢
<i>Peanut Cactus</i> ( <i>Chamaceereus sylvestris</i> )	10¢
<i>Frog Leg Cactus</i> ( <i>Kalanchoe tubiflora</i> )	10¢
<i>Kalanchoe Fedtschenkoi</i>	10¢
<i>Echeveria gibbiflora</i>	10¢

100 well rooted Sedums, my selection, 12 varieties, labelled to the best of my knowledge, \$2.00 postpaid.

50 well rooted Sedums, my selection, 10 varieties, labelled to the best of my knowledge, \$1.00 postpaid.

7 well rooted Sedums, my selection, all different, 25¢. Write me what you have.

I have quite a lot of healthy, well rooted Sedums whose labels have become mixed or lost. So many look alike at certain times, or differences lie in bloom, that without labels, identification is largely guesswork. Will sell single plants not labelled at 1¢ each in lots of 25.

#### Backyard Chickens.

There space is very limited, Bantams are a very practical breed, but many persons who have never tried them, doubt if such small breeds can really be profitable. The following is the actual experience of my friend, Mrs. Alice Miller.

During the last week of December 1942, I bought 6 Bantams, 5 hens and one cockerel. The hens were half Buff Cochin Bantam, but the male showed a strong strain of Brown Leghorn Bantam. They laid very large eggs for such a small breed, in fact 3 of the Bantam eggs fully equalled two large green eggs.

January 23rd, 1943, I set 17 Barred Rock eggs under two of the hens. Lady Luck was with me for 17 chicks hatched out and all were raised. When 2 months old, sold 10 pullets and 1 cockerel for \$7.50. Three days before they were four months old, they began laying.

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*miss Newman*





February 13th, set 2 more hens with 9 eggs each. One hen died on the nest. The other hatched 8 chicks. None died.

The first week in March, set the other hen and one of the first sitters on 15 Bantam eggs each. Didn't do so well for only 19 hatched, and all were pullets but 5. Raised all of these.

In May I set four hens on 50 Barred Rock eggs and hatched 38 chicks. I gave 9 of the babies to a little neighbor girl; raised the rest and sold the pullets, 14, for \$7.00; and the 3 cockerels brought \$2.75.

I raised these chicks without the hens or a brooder. They were kept in pasteboard boxes near the stove while small, and when weather was cold or wet.

Thus, from the flock bought about a year ago, I have hatched 82 chicks and to date, the flock is increased to 14; has laid 53 doz. and 4 eggs since January 1st, 1943. Here are the actual figures.

Cost of 6 Bantams	\$1.80
All feed from Jan. 1st.	7.85
Eggs bought for hatching	1.98
	Total cost \$11.63

Just now sold the whole flock except 2

Old stock of Bantams	brought	3.90
Young Rocks	"	\$18.00
	Total	\$21.90

The chickens not sold were eaten and no money value recorded. Eggs were not sold but used.

I still have 2 hens left and will start from these for 1944.

-C-C-C-C-O-O-O-O-

"That doth He require of thee, O man, but to deal justly, to love mercy and walk humbly with thy God."

If the above suggestion of the old prophet were taken seriously by most people, what a lot of Social Security and other Reform schemes would be knocked into a cocked hat!

-C-C-C-C-O-O-O-O-

The drought threw Violets and the Red Tradescantia into a dormant spell. I thought they were asleep for the winter, but the cold rains have brought them out again, no idea for how long.

My Frog Leg Cactus has been in bloom for about a week. Cut flowers sent me from Miami, Fla. show these blooms as bright red and yellow, about the same coloring as the native Columbine, but with the small time sunshine they get on my inclined porch, the blooms are cream and pale pink. For a long time this plant has been supposed

ed to be a Kalanchoe. Now the botanists are saying it is a Bryophyllum. I wonder if botanists are by Latin names like women are by hats. No sane woman wants to wear a hat in a well known and worn style.

Kalanchoe Fedtschenko in full bud now. In Miami it is a lively lavender. No telling what it will be here. Propagates by leaf and is pretty even when not in flower.

Viola rafinesque beginning to come up.

-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-

My studies call for more books than my budget allows. Some that I need are out of print and out of fashion. Detective novels are my substitute for narcotics when the pain gets too bad for me to keep going. Condition of bindings cuts no figure so the reading matter is there. If you need plants, particularly hardy Sedums, and have books for trade, write me for list of those I want.

Unless hindered by advancing cost of paper, the seasonal changes in my stock of plants will require a new price list every few weeks. A copy of each issue for 12 issues will be mailed for 25¢. Address MURIA D. COLE, GRANING, ARK.

Classified Ads.

1¢ a word. Three issues for price of two.

-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-C-

Hand pieced, hand quilted quilts, your choice of color and pattern, \$12.00 each. You furnish material, \$10.00. Mrs. L. V. Smith, Gillham, Ark.

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